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No. 103

STORAGE

1919

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE HOMESTEAD COMMISSION

1919



BOSTON

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS  
32 DERNE STREET

1920

## ACTS AND PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO HOMESTEAD AND PLANNING MOVEMENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

### 1909.

House 688 — Bill for the creation of a Homestead Commission.

Chapter 143, Acts of 1909 — Resolve for the appointment of a Homestead Commission to investigate and report.

### 1910.

House 198 — Adverse report of the first Homestead Commission.

House 258 — Favorable report of minority of the first Homestead Commission.

House 1687 — Bill, reported favorably by committee on public health and unfavorably by the House ways and means committee, to create permanent Homestead Commission and prescribe methods of procedure. Lost.

### 1911.

Senate 28, House 214, House 1326, House 742, Senate 550 — Bills to enable the Commonwealth to assist laboring people in acquiring homes.

Chapter 607 — The act creating the present Homestead Commission.

Chapter 84, Resolves — Creating the Metropolitan Plan Commission to make investigations into the matter of a metropolitan plan.

### 1912.

Labor Bulletin No. 88 — Homesteads for Workingmen. Bureau of Statistics. (Out of print.)

House 441 — Report of the Homestead Commission created by chapter 607, Acts of 1911.

House 442 — Bill accompanying report.

House 2339 — Adverse opinion of Supreme Court in regard to constitutionality of the proposition that the State aid laboring people in acquiring homes. 211 Mass. 624.

House 2344 — A bill to continue the Homestead Commission and define its duties.

Chapter 714 — House 2344 as finally passed.

House 1615 — Report of the Metropolitan Plan Commission.

### 1913.

House 2000 — Report of the Homestead Commission.

Chapter 494 — An Act to provide for the establishment of local planning boards.

Chapter 595 — An Act further to enlarge and define the duties of the Homestead Commission. Bulletin No. 1 of the Homestead Commission — What City Planning means. (Out of print.)

### 1914.

Bulletin No. 2 — Information and Suggestions for City and Town Planning Boards. (Out of print.)

First Annual Report of the Homestead Commission. 1913. (Public Document No. 103.) (Out of print.)

Chapter 283 — An Act to authorize the establishment of planning boards by towns having a population of less than ten thousand.

### 1915.

Bulletin No. 3 — Teaching Agriculture to Families and individuals as a Relief for Unemployment and Congestion of Population. (Out of print.)

Second Annual Report of the Homestead Commission. 1914. (Public Document No. 103.) (Out of print.)



Public Document

No. 103

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT**

OF

**THE HOMESTEAD COMMISSION**

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PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT  
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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Boston, December, 1919.

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.*

In compliance with the provisions of chapter 714 of the Acts of 1912, and chapters 494 and 595 of the Acts of 1913, the Homestead Commission, created by chapter 607 of the Acts of 1911, has the honor to submit the accompanying report and bills.

AUGUSTUS L. THORNDIKE, *Chairman.*

KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD.

GEORGE CHANDLER WHIPPLE.

EVA W. WHITE.

WARREN DUNHAM FOSTER.

ARTHUR C. COMEY.

GEORGE A. BACON.

WALTER L. McMENIMEN.

CORNELIUS A. PARKER, *Secretary.*





## REPORT OF THE HOMESTEAD COMMISSION.

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### History of Work.

In submitting its last annual report it is perhaps wise that the Commission should recapitulate briefly the history of its work.

Under authority of the Acts of 1911, chapter 607, a temporary commission was established for the purpose of reporting to the General Court of 1912 "a bill or bills embodying a plan and the method of carrying it out whereby, with the assistance of the commonwealth, homesteads or small houses and plots of ground may be acquired by mechanics, factory employees, laborers and others in the suburbs of cities and towns."

The Commission recommended in 1912 that part of the unclaimed savings banks deposits which had been called into the State treasury under chapter 590, section 56, of the Acts of 1908, should be loaned to the Commission for the purpose of assisting such laborers and others to acquire homesteads or small houses and plots of ground in the suburbs of cities and towns. This proposition was declared unconstitutional,<sup>1</sup> and the Commission was further instructed, under chapter 714 of the Acts of 1912, to "continue its investigation of the need of providing homesteads for the people of the commonwealth, and its study of plans already in operation or contemplated elsewhere for housing wage-earners . . . and recommend such legislation as in its judgment will tend to increase the supply of wholesome homes for the people."

### LAWS ENACTED.

In 1913 the Commission conducted an investigation of the need of good housing and introduced two bills, later enacted as chapters 494 and 595 of the Acts of 1913.

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<sup>1</sup> House 2339, 1912; Opinion of the Justices, 211 Mass. 624.

*Planning Boards established.*

Chapter 494 provided for the establishment of local planning boards by cities and towns having a population of more than ten thousand, "whose duty it shall be to make careful studies of the resources, possibilities and needs of the city or town, particularly with respect to conditions which may be injurious to the public health or otherwise injurious in and about rented dwellings, and to make plans for the development of the municipality with special reference to the proper housing of its people." This act imposed upon the Homestead Commission the duty of promoting and supervising such work.

*Membership of Commission enlarged.*

Chapter 595 enlarged the membership of the Commission and made it a permanent commission. The Commission as constituted originally was as follows:—

Director of the Bureau of Statistics, Charles F. Gettemy.  
President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Kenyon L. Butterfield.  
Bank Commissioner, Augustus L. Thorndike.  
Representing the State Board of Health, Clement F. Coogan.  
Mrs. Eva W. White of Boston.  
Warren Dunham Foster of Boston.  
Henry Sterling of Medford.

Under the Acts of 1913 two additional members were appointed:—

Cornelius A. Parker of Boston,  
Arthur C. Comey of Cambridge.

There have been only three changes in the personnel of the Commission since 1913. When the State Board of Health was superseded by the State Department of Health, Clement F. Coogan, a former member, was automatically retired and was succeeded by Prof. George Chandler Whipple of Harvard University. In 1918 Henry Sterling assumed duties in Washington and resigned from the Commission, Walter L. McMenimen being appointed to fill the vacancy. In 1919 Charles F.

Gettemy resigned from his official position to go to the Federal Reserve Bank, and George A. Bacon, the new Director of the Bureau of Statistics, took his place on the Commission.

Mr. Gettemy was chairman from 1913 until his resignation in 1919, when Mr. Thorndike was elected by the Commission to the chairmanship. To Mr. Sterling, secretary of the Commission until his resignation in 1918, is due, perhaps more than to any other one man, credit for whatever of value the Commission has accomplished. On the resignation of Mr. Sterling, Mr. Parker was elected secretary. It is fair to say that the interest of all of the members of the Commission has been sustained and increased during the years of their service. In turning over the duties of the Commission to the Department of Public Welfare, it is with the hope that the department will have the vision, with the wholehearted support of the Legislature, to continue the work. At no time has the promotion of good housing been more necessary. At no time has the question been more acute, and it is unfortunate that this year the work should be crippled by lack of financial support.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The first important publication of the Homestead Commission was the report of 1913, in which was included a study of all that has been done by public authorities in all countries in the field of governmental housing. Through the courtesy of the United States Department of State, reports were obtained from the different nations, and were translated under the direction of the Commission and summarized in its report. Foreign governmental aid to the production of workmen's homes is afforded in three general ways: —

1. Special laws relative to taxation, exemptions and condemnations, covering taxation in site values, exemptions of improvements, exemptions in favor of workmen, special assessments and betterment taxes.
2. Financial aid, covering direct building by national, State or local authorities, opportunities for obtaining money at low rates of interest, aid to co-operative building and credit organizations, State savings and agricultural banks.
3. The national, State and municipal land policy, covering ownership, sale and rental of land, closer settling, homestead, small holdings and acts of like nature.

The countries included in that study were: —

The Australasian countries: New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia.

Great Britain: England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

Continental Europe: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Roumania, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

The South American Group: Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Colombia.

Others are: Canada, Cuba, India, the Union of South Africa, Chosen (Korea) and the insular possessions of the United States.

The Commission also made a study of the methods of financing private housing companies, and the results of its investigation are embodied in the report of 1913. Soon after, at the suggestion of the commission, there was developed the Billerica Garden Suburb, which up to date has constructed over seventy workingmen's homes at North Billerica. Two years later the Cambridge Dwelling House Company was formed. The Commission has from time to time published bulletins on the various phases of housing and city and town planning.

#### CITY PLANNING.

The Commission has taken an active part in the promotion of city planning and housing betterment, and with the exception of the war period, when the Commission was partly disorganized because its members were engaged in war work abroad and at Washington, yearly conferences have been held on city planning and housing. These meetings have been always well attended, enthusiastic and helpful.

#### LOWELL HOUSING PROJECT.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the Legislature and public have to a large degree lost sight of the educational value of the work done and have focused their attention on the State experiment in housing conducted at Lowell, because important as that work was, or will be when the Commonwealth sees fit to complete the work, it was never in the mind of the Commission more than a demonstration and a part of the educational work of the Commission.

The passage of the constitutional amendment, November, 1919, authorizing the Commonwealth to provide homes for citizens is familiar to the people of the Commonwealth; also the purchase of about 7 acres of land with the first appropriation made by the Legislature for the purpose.<sup>1</sup> Copies of the reports of 1917 and 1918, containing the report of the building development at Lowell up to the first of December, 1918, are still available. Reference to those reports will show the plan by which the houses have been sold. The following table shows the financial status at the end of the fiscal year: —

*Statement to Nov. 30, 1919.*

LOT NUMBER.	Initial Payment.	Balance due after Initial Payment.	Paid on Principal.	Interest.	Balance unpaid.
2, . . . . .	\$50 00	\$3,050 00	\$178 08	\$210 88	\$2,871 92
3, . . . . .	100 00	2,800 00	153 47	182 53	2,646 53
4, . . . . .	100 00	2,800 00	143 54	171 46	2,656 46
5, . . . . .	100 00	2,800 00	163 39	193 61	2,636 61
6, . . . . .	{ 50 00	2,400 00	64 88	78 01	2,235 12
	{ 100 00 <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—
7, . . . . .	{ 50 00	2,400 00	47 90	58 99	2,302 10
	{ 50 00 <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—
8, . . . . .	{ 100 00	2,800 00	55 42	68 33	2,644 58
	{ 100 00 <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—
9, . . . . .	{ 50 00	2,350 00	70 98	86 55	2,229 02
	{ 50 00 <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—
10, . . . . .	50 00	2,375 00	115 49	154 99	2,259 51
11, . . . . .	100 00	2,900 00	169 24	200 51	2,730 76
12, . . . . .	{ 50 00	2,850 00	144 24	171 96	2,605 76
	{ 100 00 <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—
13, . . . . .	100 00	3,000 00	185 71	219 29	2,814 29
Totals, . . .	\$1,300 00	\$32,525 00	\$1,492 34	\$1,797 11	\$30,632 66

While there were changes incident to the disturbance of labor conditions at the time of the signing of the armistice, the houses are all sold at the date of going to press, and payments are being made regularly. The State will lose nothing on this proposition unless through failure to utilize remaining land. There still remain thirty-six lots upon which houses should be built to complete the development.

<sup>1</sup> General Acts of 1917, chapter 310.

<sup>2</sup> Amount paid by second tenant when property was transferred.

The continuance of the building program was rendered impossible by the failure of the Legislature to make an appropriation as recommended by the Homestead Commission, the Supervisor of Administration, and His Excellency Governor Coolidge. In fairness to the work of the Commission it should be stated that its members realized that the first appropriation was inadequate. The request was for \$100,000. The appropriation was \$50,000, and when it was made the members of the Commission were led to believe that this was an initial appropriation to be followed later by amounts needed to complete the experiment.

The position of the Commission was taken after careful thought. There were but two ways by which State housing could be made to "relieve congestion" as provided by statute. First, by an appropriation large enough to enable the building of houses in large quantities to compete with private enterprise. This was rejected as unwise excepting in case of absolute failure of private capital to meet the demand. That condition had not at that date (1917) been reached. (Question: Can the answer be the same to-day?) Second, by purchasing the smallest tract of land capable of being developed as a neighborhood group protected from unfavorable surroundings, giving opportunity to foster a neighborhood spirit, and making that tract a laboratory for testing out wholesale costs and availability of different types of houses for needs of the New England laboring man.

The plot selected was admirable for this purpose, being in an industrial center, with land values not too high, within walking distance of the large mills, near schools, with city improvements, and with soil admirably adapted for agricultural purposes. The work speaks for itself.

Under the direction of the Homestead Commission, serving without pay, twelve houses were completed at an average cost per room for five-room houses of \$500, and considerably less per room for semidetached four-room houses. These were built under war-time costs and conditions, and were substantial and well constructed with all needed modern conveniences. The Commission planned next to build a considerable number of six-room single houses.

The record of the Homestead owners in garden production under the advice and counsel of the agent of the Commission has been remarkable, the record shown in the report for 1918 having been equaled or bettered in 1919.

This much it has seemed fair to state not as justification of the Commission in its acts, but to correct misleading statements and false impressions which have gained some currency regarding the work, in order that the voters and the Legislature may approach the subject in the future with open mind.

#### OTHER ACTIVITIES.

As to other activities, the fact that early in the year it was realized that the Commission would terminate its existence within a few months rendered it unwise to launch out extensively along new lines of work.

#### *Visit to United States Housing Developments.*

In January, while an appropriation was regarded as probable, the chairman and secretary visited the United States Housing Company and Emergency Fleet Corporation houses at Bridgeport, Philadelphia and Yorkship Village. Here they saw clearly demonstrated the advantage of group or neighborhood construction as opposed to the building of houses separately located. The costs of these houses were, however, all far in excess of the Lowell houses.

#### *Bureau of Information.*

The Homestead Commission has acted as a bureau of information, and has been constantly consulted through its secretary and assistant, as well as through the other members of the Commission, on matters relating to city planning, finance and legislation. Many inquiries are received and answered by mail. The interest in this first public housing project of the United States is shown by constant requests for information from public officials in nearly every part of the civilized world.



*Conference of Planning Boards.*

The Commission arranged during the closing weeks of the fiscal year for a Conference of Planning Boards, to be held soon after the Department of Public Welfare should take charge of the work, in order that the City and Town Planning Board officials might meet the Commissioner of the Department.

**The Department of Public Welfare.**

The years during which the Homestead Commission has been in existence have been marked by a great awakening of interest in the human side of home building and city planning. For such help as the Commission and its individual members may have been able to give to the cause they are grateful, and it is the firm belief of the members that in the future this department taken over by the Department of Public Welfare is the best instrumentality through which the State can focus its attention and its work on this all important problem.

**City and Town Planning Board Reports.**

The reports of the local planning boards for the year 1919 show a renewal of the activities interrupted by the war. The word that comes from many of the cities and towns indicates an added interest in the work of the planning boards on the part of the townspeople and more co-operation of the city and town officials. Education of the general public in the work the planning board is appointed to do is still necessary in order that the sympathetic backing of the voters may be obtained. All possible publicity should be given to the special projects of local boards, through the press, by illustrated lectures, and by any other method that seems feasible in the several localities. The work is new, and it received an unfortunate setback during the war period. Now is the time to begin anew to push the town-planning movement.

Does your town have a regular clean-up week?

Have you a civic center?

Are your streets shaded with trees?

Have building lines been established?

Have you too many billboards?  
Are the guideposts in your town adequate?  
Have you good traffic regulations?  
Is your building law adequate?  
Have you considered the question of zoning?  
Do you need better housing?  
Have you a sufficient number of playgrounds properly equipped?  
Is your town planning for its future?  
Are you awake?

The following is a summary of what has been accomplished during 1919: —

*Amherst.* — Regular monthly meetings have been held. The board has been at work on the revision of the building law; establishment of building limits, provision of a suitable war memorial, and the planting of street trees.

*Arlington.* — The board received authority from the town to erect a "Roll of Honor". This question and the proposition to establish building lines on Massachusetts Avenue and other streets of the town have absorbed the attention of the board. The board has under consideration a new street from the vicinity of the Town Hall to Mystic Street and the improvement of Sucker Brook valley.

*Attleboro.* — The following recommendations were made to the city council: that South Main Street be widened; that Mechanic Street be improved; that Monument Square be laid out as a one-way thoroughfare; that an ordinance be passed prohibiting the parking of vehicles on either side of Mill Street between the railroad arch and Union Street; and that immediate steps be taken to secure a site on North Main Street for a city hall.

*Boston.* — A report upon a municipal landing field for aeroplanes for the city of Boston has been prepared and submitted to the mayor and the city council in preparation for the continuing of the aerial mail service from New York to Boston.

The report of the North End, in the form of a survey and comprehensive plan for development, was submitted to the mayor and by him ordered printed as a public document. The recommendations in the form of a bill were reported by the committee on municipal finance (Senate, No. 373), authorizing

the city of Boston to borrow \$5,000,000 for the purpose of making improvements in the North End in accordance with the plans submitted. The bill was defeated in the House together with two other important housing measures relative to the city of Boston which were presented to the Legislature during the year.

Playground locations in South Boston, the Phillips Brooks School district and the South End were studied in their relation to a complete playground system for the city. The board has a map showing the location of existing playgrounds and the area served by each.

Locations for municipal buildings in Hyde Park and the West End were studied and reported on to the mayor. A site for a municipal building for East Boston was studied also.

Plans for the construction of the "western artery" have been endorsed by a committee appointed by the mayor to consider the various street improvement plans as the one most deserving of careful and immediate study. A bill providing for this improvement was submitted to the 1919 Legislature (House, No. 963) and was referred to the next General Court.

*Brockton.* — The appropriation for the year was cut. Plans were made and some details worked out for taking a large tract of land for a playground in the foreign section. Work to have a thoroughfare opened at the North End of the city is reported in progress.

*Brookline.* — A number of alternative studies have been prepared for the improvement of traffic conditions at Coolidge Corner. A continuation was made of the study interrupted by the war for the improvement at the entrance to the town near the corner of Brookline Avenue and Washington Street.

*Clinton.* — The board suggested the acquisition of land which is being developed as a memorial park. Five hundred dollars was appropriated by the town to be expended under the direction of the planning board for guide boards. Work to improve transportation is in progress. The demand for more houses has resulted in building by corporations and private individuals. The attention of property owners has been called to conditions that needed bettering, and the general conditions of tenement houses has been greatly improved.

*Dedham.* — The season at Stone Park was most successful. Improvements and additions are needed. Mr. Shurtleff, landscape architect, and Mr. Worthington, engineer, have been employed to draw plans for the improvement of the Eastern Avenue swamp, and their reports are submitted as a part of the report of the planning board.

*Fitchburg.* — The board reports advisory co-operation with city officials in matters relating to public welfare. The work of construction interrupted by the war is being resumed.

*Framingham.* — The board has been active in obtaining the relocation and widening of two important streets.

*Haverhill.* — The board was inactive during the first six months of the year owing to lack of funds. In order to educate the city officials and the citizens in the work of the planning board a stereopticon lecture has been prepared and given which shows conditions throughout the city which need improvement. The services were secured of Ex-Representative Charles H. Morrill, who made quite a thorough investigation of the housing conditions in Ward 5 of the city. His report was submitted as a part of the report of the planning board, and contains various recommendations for the improvement of conditions.

*Holyoke.* — No aggressive work has been done owing to financial conditions. The board has been working in an advisory capacity with the mayor and the board of public works. Plans for beautifying the city and developing through routes of travel were submitted, but these projects are held up until the city is in a better financial position.

*Leominster.* — Work has been confined to recommending the laying out of new streets and the providing of more parks for the city.

*Lexington.* — The board in its first year has considered such questions as the proper layout of streets and street extensions, the location of a proposed new town hall, building lines, the proper development of a large marsh area, housing, and zoning laws. The town is building a new cemetery, and the question of the layout and general method of management was referred to the planning board along with other bodies. The cemetery will be entirely along park lines. It is intended to care for the

needs of the entire town, but it will, with one exception, have no gravestones or monuments of any kind appearing above ground, thus preserving a natural and restful appearance.

*Malden.* — During the year the following matters were discussed: establishment of building lines; street improvement; improvement of creeks and the Malden River; placing and relocation of street signs; marking boundary lines between Malden and the adjacent cities; beautification of school grounds; planting memorial trees; municipal housing; proposed site for a new city hall; and improvement of scenic effects of views presented along the railroads.

*Melrose.* — The last meeting was held in June. No recommendations have been made, but the meetings have been devoted to study and discussion.

*Natick.* — The board favored the bill before the Legislature to permit and regulate fishing and boating in the great ponds of the State. This bill, if passed, would have been of great benefit to the town in restoring former privileges of boating and fishing on Lake Cochituate. The board was requested to investigate, with the board of selectmen, the grade crossing danger and report recommendations to the 1920 town meeting.

*Newton.* — The board was provided with funds which were used in employing Arthur A. Shurtleff, city planner, and John P. Fox, Jr., expert in zoning. The plan for the development of Newton was worked out and was presented to the board of aldermen at the close of the year. Since the Legislature failed to pass the act enabling cities and towns to create zones, the board, with the help of Mr. Fox, endeavored to devise an ordinance which would accomplish the desired result under the police power. The zone plan has been worked out ready for presentation. Work has also been done relative to street widening and building lines.

*Northampton.* — The board voted to recommend: renaming of streets; improvement at corner of State and Elm streets; a clean-up campaign; establishment of safety zones on Main Street; passing of an ordinance to regulate the future establishment of public garages in residential sections of the city; a hearing in the matter of a dangerous curve at the junction of South and New South streets; and the building of a new

drinking fountain. Plans for a soldier memorial in the form of an auditorium and a civic center were discussed. One of the board agreed to make a plan showing the proposed municipal group, this plan to be submitted to a committee appointed by the mayor. Two delegates were sent to the national conference held at Buffalo.

*Pittsfield.* — Meetings were devoted to a discussion of the city plan.

*Quincy.* — The board again recommended added city hall facilities. The following matters of interest were reported: that the drainage plan for surface waters has been completed by the city engineer; that the work on the Furnace Brook Parkway permitted by the Legislature is in progress; that an appropriation has been made for the tidegate at the outlet of Black's Creek; that 2,000 white pines, to be set out early in the season, have been obtained from the State forestry department; that plans have been studied for a proposed addition to the high school; and that, in co-operation with the Pilgrim Memorial Parkway Association, a plan of the old "Country Way" was studied and is being published. Submitted with the report are various photographs of plans relative to the work of the board.

*Reading.* — The board studied the question of the disposition of soft coal ashes from various public buildings and industrial establishments, and a recommendation was made to the board of selectmen that the 912 cubic yards of ashes that are made in the town annually from soft coal should be collected and stored by the town to be used for making foundations for sidewalks and similar construction. The feasibility of building a municipal garage on land owned by the town was also considered. Architects have been employed to furnish sketches for a suitable garage which will meet the requirements of the town for the future as well as the present.

*Stoneham.* — The board has been active in securing rounded street corners and the renaming of streets having similar names. Plans are being made for a community house.

*Taunton.* — An illustrated lecture was given under the auspices of the board by George F. Marlowe of Boston on the subject of housing. Progress in street improvement was reported. Efforts were continued to get ordinances passed to

give the board some measure of authority with reference to street layouts and to provide for the prohibition of the wooden three decker.

*Wakefield.* — No new recommendations were made because of the financial condition of the town, but the establishment of grades on all accepted streets was again recommended.

*Watertown.* — The board made suggestions for street improvement, the development of a future athletic field, and plans for a new municipal building community center to meet the needs of a new town hall and a soldier memorial.

*Westfield.* — The planning board made recommendations which were accepted by the board of survey in the only real estate development which has been attempted during the past year. Two additional playgrounds were recommended. Building lines are being established on all new streets. The widening of Church Street is suggested. The building code is ready for presentation to the town.

*Winchester.* — A map of the town has been prepared for the planning board, showing the location of the various plots of land owned by the town and the location of the building lines which have been adopted. Building lines were applied on three new streets, making a total of twenty-five streets on which building lines have been established. Acceptance by the town of the State betterment act is recommended, also continuation of sidewalk construction and improvements at the railroad station. A conference was held with the school committee to consider the needs of the town for increased school accommodations. At the invitation of the park commissioners the board has looked over plans for the proposed further development of Judkins Pond, and recommends this project. Acceptance by the town of the new building code is urged.

The following cities and towns of over 10,000 population have no planning boards: —

Adams.	Lynn.	Peabody.
Chelsea.	Marlborough.	Saugus.
Danvers.	Medford.	Southbridge.
Fall River.	Milford.	Webster.
Gloucester.	New Bedford.	West Springfield.
Greenfield.	Newburyport.	
Lowell.	North Adams.	



- Chapter 129 — Relating to the membership of the Homestead Commission.
- Chapter 165 — Permitting town planning boards to be authorized to act as park commissioners.
- Bulletin No. 4 — Proceedings of the Third Annual City and Town Planning Conference. (Out of print.)
- House 1851 — Report relative to taking land for public purposes.

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- Bulletin No. 5 — A Schedule of Civic Surveys.
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- Chapter 185, General Acts — An Act to authorize cities to maintain schools of agriculture and horticulture.
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- Sixth Annual Report of the Homestead Commission. 1918. (Public Document No. 103.)

Copies of the above may be obtained from Department of Public Welfare, Division of Housing and Town Planning, State House, Boston, Mass.

